

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A medical line securement system comprising:

a medical article;

at least one anchor pad including a lower adhesive surface configured to attach to an epidermal layer of a patient; and

a retainer comprising,

a body member having a channel formed therethrough about a channel axis, the channel being configured to retain at least a portion of the medical article and having a longitudinal access opening disposed on an underside of the body member to allow at least ingress of the portion of the medical article into the channel,

at least one abutment extending generally normal to the channel axis and configured to inhibit longitudinal movement of the medical article, and

at least one support disposed on the underside of the retainer and to a side of the access opening opposite the channel axis, the support attached to the anchor pad.

2. A medical line securement system as in Claim 1 wherein the medical article comprises at least one contact surface which is configured to abut against the at least one abutment to arrest movement of the medical article in at least one direction.

3. A medical line securement system as in Claim 1 wherein the at least one abutment is located between proximal and distal ends of the body member along the axis of the channel.

4. A medical line securement system as in Claim 1 wherein the at least one abutment is a surface on a proximal end of the body member along the axis of the channel.

5. A medical line securement system as in Claim 1 wherein the at least one abutment is located on a distal end of the body member along the axis of the channel.

6. A medical line securement system as in Claim 2 wherein the at least one contact surface comprises a surface of a radially extending member.

7. A medical line securement system as in Claim 6, wherein the radially extending member extends about the circumference of the medical article.

8. A medical line securement system as in Claim 6, wherein the radially extending member extends substantially parallel to the medical article.

9. A medical line securement system as in Claim 6, wherein the retainer comprises two abutments disposed between the proximal and distal ends of the medical article to form a slot therebetween, and wherein the slot receives the radially extending member when the medical article is inserted into the channel.

10. A medical line securement system as in Claim 1 wherein the medical article is a catheter hub.

11. A medical line securement system as in Claim 1 wherein the medical article is a connector fitting.

12. A medical line securement system as in Claim 1 wherein the medical article comprises two contact surfaces, and wherein the body member of the retainer is sized to fit between the two contact surfaces.

13. A medical line securement system as in Claim 1 wherein the medical article comprises two contact surfaces and the body member of the retainer comprises two abutments, and wherein the two contact surfaces abut against the two abutments.

14. A medical line securement system as in Claim 1, wherein the channel has an arc length of greater than 180 degrees.

15. A medical line securement system as in Claim 1, wherein the channel has a first tapering shape.

16. A medical line securement system as in Claim 15, wherein an outer surface of the medical article has a second tapering shape.

17. A medical line securement system as in Claim 16, wherein the first tapering shape and the second tapering shape cooperate together when the medical article is inserted into the channel to limit longitudinal movement of the medical article in a first direction.

18. A medical line securement system as in Claim 17 wherein the medical article comprises a contact surface which abuts against the at least one abutment to limit longitudinal movement of the medical article in a second direction.

19. A medical line securement system as in Claim 1, wherein the retainer comprises a retention surface which is configured to inhibit transverse motion of the medical article.

20. A medical line securement system as in Claim 19, wherein the retention surface is located in the channel.

21. A medical line securement system as in Claim 20 wherein the retention surface provides a snap-fit securement with the portion of the medical article.

22. A medical line securement system as in Claim 20, wherein the retention surface flexes when the medical article is inserted into the channel.

23. A medical line securement system as in Claim 22, wherein the retention surface is a movable wall.

24. A medical line securement system as in Claim 20, wherein the channel has a radius of R and wherein the retention surface is located at a distance of greater than R from the axis of the channel.

25. A medical line securement system as in Claim 1, wherein the at least one support is a first mounting wing coupled to the body member and configured to attach to the at least one anchor pad.

26. A medical line securement system as in Claim 1, wherein the abutment comprises an adhesive, the adhesive adhering to the medical article when the medical article is inserted into the retainer.

27. A medical line securement system as in Claim 1, wherein a portion of the body member is transparent to facilitate alignment and ingress when inserting the medical article into the channel.

28. A medical line securement system as in Claim 9, further comprising a stop member which extends into a portion of the slot such that when the medical article is inserted into the channel and rotated in a first direction around the axis of the channel, the radially extending member slides within the slot until the radially extending member contacts the stop member.

29. A medical line securement system as in Claim 1, wherein the abutment comprises a wall of a slot.

30. A medical line securement system as in Claim 1, wherein the abutment comprises a ridge.

31. A medical line securement system as in Claim 1, wherein the abutment comprises a protuberance.

32. A retainer configured for use with a medical article, the retainer comprising:

a body member comprising,

a channel formed through the body member, the channel being configured to retain at least a portion of the medical article and having a longitudinal access opening disposed on an underside of the body member to allow at least ingress of the medical article into the channel,

at least one abutment extending generally normal to an axis of the inverted channel and configured to inhibit longitudinal movement of the medical article, and

at least one support disposed on the underside of the retainer and to a side of the access opening opposite the channel axis.

33. A retainer as in Claim 32 wherein the at least one abutment is configured to abut against a contact surface on the medical article to arrest movement of the medical article in at least one direction.

34. A retainer as in Claim 33 wherein the contact surface comprises a surface of a radially extending member.

35. A retainer as in Claim 34, wherein the retainer comprises two abutments to form a slot therebetween, and wherein the slot is configured to receive the radially extending member when the medical article is inserted into the channel.

36. A retainer as in Claim 32, wherein the channel has a tapering shape.

37. A retainer as in Claim 36, wherein the medical article has a tapering shape.

38. A retainer as in Claim 37, wherein the tapering shape of the channel is selected to match the tapering shape of the medical article to limit longitudinal movement of the medical article in a first direction when the medical article is inserted into the channel.

39. A retainer as in Claim 38, wherein the at least abutment is configured to abut against a contact surface on the medical article to limit longitudinal movement of the medical article in a second direction.

40. A retainer as in Claim 32, wherein the retainer comprises a retention surface which is configured to inhibit transverse motion of the medical article.

41. A retainer as in Claim 40, wherein the retention surface is located in the channel.

42. A retainer as in Claim 32, wherein the at least one support is a first mounting wing coupled to the body member.

43. A retainer as in Claim 35, further comprising a stop member which extends into a portion of the slot such that when the medical article is inserted into the channel and rotated in a first direction around the axis of the channel, the radially extending member slides within the slot until the radially extending member contacts the stop member.

44. A retainer configured for use with a medical article, the retainer comprising:

a body member comprising,

a channel formed through the body member, the channel being configured to retain at least a portion of the medical article and having a longitudinal access opening disposed on an underside of the body member to allow ingress of the portion of the medical article into the channel,

at least one abutment extending generally normal to an axis of the channel and configured to inhibit longitudinal movement of the medical article, and

means for holding the medical article away from a patient's skin.

45. A retainer as in Claim 44, wherein the means for holding is located in the channel.

46. A retainer as in Claim 44, wherein the means for holding is located to the underside of the retainer.

47. A retainer as in Claim 44, wherein the means for holding also inhibits motion of the medical article in a longitudinal direction.

48. A retainer as in Claim 44, wherein the means for holding also inhibits motion of the medical article in a transverse direction.

49. A retainer configured for use with a medical article that comprises a radially extending member, the retainer comprising:

a body member having proximal and distal ends and further comprising,

a channel formed through the body member, the channel being configured to retain at least a portion of the medical article and having a longitudinal access opening disposed on an underside of the body member to allow at least ingress of the medical article into the channel,

at least one slot disposed between the proximal and distal ends of the body member and configured to receive the radially extending member, and

a stop member extending into a portion of the at least one slot such that when the medical article is inserted into the channel and rotated in a first direction around the axis of the channel, the radially extending member slides within the slot until the radially extending member contacts the stop member.

50. A retainer as in Claim 49, wherein the body member further comprises at least one support disposed on the underside of the retainer and to a side of the access opening opposite the channel axis.

51. A retainer in Claim 50, wherein the retainer comprises a retention surface which is configured to inhibit transverse motion of the medical article.

52. A method of securing a medical article to a patient, the method comprising:

providing a medical article;

providing a retainer having a channel formed therethrough, the channel being configured to receive and retain the medical article, and at least one abutment extending generally normal to the channel;

positioning the retainer over the medical article;

pressing the medical article into the channel through an opening formed on the underside of the retainer;

abutting the medical article against the abutment to inhibit longitudinal motion of the medical article relative to the retainer in at least one direction; and

after pressing the article into the body member, adhering the retainer relative to a patient's skin.

53. A medical line securement system comprising:

a medical article having a connector;

a retainer comprising,

a body member having a channel formed therethrough, the channel being configured to retain at least a portion of the medical article and having a longitudinal access opening disposed on an underside of the body member to allow ingress of the portion of the medical article into the channel,

at least one abutment extending generally normal to an axis of the channel and configured to inhibit longitudinal movement of the medical article,

at least one support surface disposed on the underside of the retainer and to a side of the access opening opposite the channel axis,

wherein an overall length of the retainer is less than a length of the medical article.

54. A medical line securement system as in Claim 53, wherein the retainer further comprises at least one anchor pad including a lower adhesive surface configured to attach to an epidermal layer of a patient; and wherein the at least one support surface is configured to attach to one of the at least one anchor pads.

55. A medical line securement system as in Claim 53, wherein the medical article is a catheter hub.

56. A medical line securement system as in Claim 53, wherein the medical article is a connector fitting.

57. A medical line securement system as in Claim 53, wherein the medical article comprises at least one contact surface which is configured to abut against the at least one abutment to arrest movement of the medical article in at least one direction.

58. A retainer configured for use with a medical article, the retainer comprising:

a body member comprising,

a channel formed therethrough, the channel being configured to retain a portion of the medical article and having a longitudinal access opening disposed on an underside of the body member to allow ingress of the medical article into the channel,

at least one abutment extending generally normal to an axis of the channel and configured to inhibit longitudinal movement of the medical article, and

at least one support disposed on the underside of the retainer and to a side of the access opening opposite the channel axis, wherein a distance between the at least one support and the axis of the channel prevents contact between the medical article and a patient's skin when the retainer is placed upon the patient's skin.

59. A retainer as Claim 58, wherein the channel comprises at least two portions that are spaced apart with the at least one abutment in between, each portion extending about the channel.

60. A retainer configured for use with a medical article, the retainer comprising:

a body member comprising,

a channel formed therethrough, the channel being configured to retain the medical article and having a longitudinal access opening disposed on an underside of the body member to allow ingress of the medical article,

at least one abutment extending generally normal to an axis of the channel and configured to inhibit longitudinal movement of the medical article,

at least one support disposed on the underside of the retainer and to one side of the access opening opposite the channel axis, wherein the support surface provides a mounting surface for attachment of the retainer to a patient's skin, and wherein the mounting surface is angled relative to the longitudinal access opening to define an incident angle between the axis of the channel and the patient's skin.